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Smaller councils urged to help deliver services

By Adam Pinn

COUNCILS and parish councils are being urged to increase their involvement in delivering local services in the wake of cuts to West Berkshire Council.

A new website goes live on Monday providing resources and advice on a range of additional services it could offer such as pool cleaning or park maintenance.

West Berkshire Council has been hit by millions of pounds of cuts to its leisure service, including in recent years, and some services have been taken over by local clubs and groups.

Matthew Pinner, West Berkshire's executive member for community facilities, said: "The private delivery of services is local communities, but sometimes there are significant resources available to do more."

"At a time when we are working hard to cut welfare entitlements we want to help our constituents get more for themselves.

"We know people take pride in what they do, whether it's running a garden, holding a hobby group, helping with delivery, growing exchange, bringing vegetation clearance, doing up houses and helping a bit more to provide."



The new website was launched on Monday

Parish and parish council websites are due to be added to the online service.

Parish council patch newsletter

Parish councils were involved in helping to shape the new website, which will be available on West Berkshire Council's website and will feature regular news and information.

"We welcome and look forward to the opportunity offered by the new website to keep our communities and visitors up-to-date with the latest developments in their parish," he said.

"It is important that the changes being brought on West Berkshire Council's website and website

are the best way to work with the district to achieve the best outcome for all parties."

"We welcomed and took the opportunity offered by the new website to keep our communities and visitors up-to-date with the latest developments in their parish," he said.

"It is important that the changes being brought on West Berkshire Council's website and website

are the best way to work with the best outcome for all parties."

releasing a CCTV image of a man as we believe he might have vital information about the incident.

"If you are the man in the CCTV or you think you may know this man please contact police immediately by calling 999 and quoting reference 1023."

Man 'may have car row information'



A CCTV image has been released of a man police are looking for after a driver threat-waved a man off what appeared to be an unauthorised bus in Thatcham.

There was an alteration between two motorists in the Croy area just off Hatch Road at around 2.30pm March 22.

The driver of a white saloon, believed to be an 18-year-old from Newbury, is seen in a small dark car before driving off.

Police believe the driver making the threat had an established history. No one was injured in the incident.

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News Bites

Town egg hunt

REINDEER: This year's Great Easter Egg-Hunt will take form in

West Berkshire with hidden eggs in the town centre, with participants given clues to find them and the chance to win a prize.

Entry forms can be collected from the Easter craft workshop in Paddington Library, Alder Rd, 10am-12.30pm or visit [the egg hunt website](http://www.egg-hunt.co.uk).

Russell Downing, managing director of the Great Egg Hunt, said: "The Great Easter Egg Hunt will be a big highlight that we are thrilled to be working with Paddington to bring it to Basingstoke again this year."

Tennis opening

REINDEER: The official opening of the newly refurbished tennis courts in Victoria Park takes place on Saturday, with former mayor Julian Stedman playing the honours.

A day of tennis activities at the new courts will also be held including a competition for children aged 10 and under.

"Come along to our opening ceremony and see what it's all about," said Julian.

Cycle coaching

WEST BERKSHIRE: Children across the district can take part in a summer of cycling at Monday afternoon tea. Thursday evenings will be for adults, who can attend a session aimed at those who have never cycled or who have not cycled for many years.

It has been organised by West Berkshire Council in collaboration with Basingstoke and Bordon Royal Flying Club. It runs from 10am to 1pm, costs £3. For more details, go to tinyurl.com/qzqjw2k.

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Test of strength that will give two towns much-deserved lift

By Adam Finn

WE'RE stronger – people in Thatcham or people in Newbury?

The challenge has been laid down the residents of a special town in the Newbury area. The Newbury-based lymphoedema charity has set up a challenge to see which town has the best physical fitness.

Lymphoedema charity South West of the South West Way has launched the #SouthWestWayMind campaign, where residents are challenged to fit one epically-themed circuit test of beats till the very top lymphoedema stage.

The challenge targets are these added up to see if out what Thatcham or Newbury is the strongest town.

Says said: "People don't realize how important it is to be strong for everyday living."

"Many people are put off by going to the gym and taking weights, but there are lots of other ways you can stay active without leaving your sofa all the time such as skipping, bags without realising."

"Staying fit and active can have a positive benefit to your mental health and staying active is important for our day-to-day lives."



South West Way charity with the team from The South West Way (picture by Thatcham Photographic Club)

Residents from the Royal College of Physiologists say lymphoedema has an effect on certain chemicals in the human body and can affect a person's emotional thinking.

It was deemed to reduce

emotional stress. The challenge has been supported by mental health charity Mind, which has helped to fundraise on the day.

South West Way's Ellen Greenway was one of those who took the challenge on as Saturday

morning at 6am. She said: "I was glad I did, and I could manage 10,000 steps all over the heavy suitcase."

"I was trying to show that physical fitness can help with mental problems, so here's up this place where the people of Thatcham were fitting

weights and running from there were getting on before bed at 6am," she said.

"I think Thatcham will definitely be ahead."

Newbury will get its chance to prove its strength when the challenge comes on April 16.

Council aiming to be 'flexible'

Continued from first page

A panel of three has emerged with a proposal to submit the motion to Wiltshire Council to create a community library for the area.

"We're looking discussions with the local community to help put them the outcome they need in order to launch a new library."

"We'll approach this as directly as we can, although there can be no end to the process as a result of client proposals."

£30k of jewellery stolen

ANOTHER £30K of jewellery along with cash and bank cards, has been stolen from a shop in Thatcham.

Formerly known as 2 Man Barber, Thatcham's broken locks onto the Gold Ring Shop on Hartshill Lane after having opened the vault door.

The store stolen包括diamond rings, most a signed ring, pendant, necklace and a diamond brooch made of solid white gold.

all taken together.

Investigating officer PC Steven Davies said: "There is no physical damage to the shop and we're continuing a full investigation into this incident and would like to speak to anyone who may have seen or heard anything suspicious in the weeks at this time."

Anyone with information is asked to call the Thames Valley Police non-emergency number on 101 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111.

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News Bits

TK Maxx moving
NEWPORT: Clothing chain TK Maxx is set to move out of its former Colchester branch and based in its new home in Fleetway Retail Park.

The store will close on Wednesday May 3, 2017, inspiring in its place 17,000 sq ft of new retail units. The following opening.

TK Maxx says all staff at the current store have been offered positions and that up to 100 jobs will be created.

A statement said: "The store will close at the earliest opportunity to minimise disruption for customers, and we believe this is the earliest – albeit cautious – coverage."

Brexit talk

EAST GARDEN: A panel discussion on Brexit and its possible effect on rural trade and the mining industry is being held next Thursday.

Panelists include former Liberal Democrat MP for Huntingdon, which will feature a number of guest speakers. Professor Christopher Bellamy, and Michaela Williams, will speak.

This debate is in response to talk over the potential effects that leaving the EU will have on life in West Berkshire.

It starts at 7pm at East Garden Village Hall and is free to attend.



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Runner will hop across channel to help

A BERKSHIRE woman is taking on the Paris Marathon this weekend to raise money for Cheltenham's wheelchair basketball club.

Michelle Parker has been training with her sister Debbie for four days in support of Thomas Valley Kings.

She has set herself a target of

£1,000 for the club, which provides competitive wheelchair basketball for people of all ages on the area.

Michelle said: "I'm a champion wheelchair user myself, I am deeply inspired by the time the volunteers put in alongside their full-time job and I am by what they

have achieved and I'm hoping to help them by raising as much money as possible. I am very grateful to the volunteers for their hard work and I am looking forward to the day when we can all be back on the pitch again."

Translated to Michelle, paralysed game on the running wheelchair basketball programme will

Benefit claims delay 'a blip' caused by a change of workers

By Adam Fenn

TRIPLETS The Berkshires' Council is talk-
ing five days longer to process new
benefit claims than it did two years
ago.

Figures in the council performance report show it was taking an average 22 days for payments to be processed between April and December 2011, as opposed to just under 18 in 2009/10 and in the fol-
lowing financial year.

In one of three areas highlighted as a 'blip' on the report, the issue was brought up for discussion at last Thursday's executive meeting.

Lee Giese, leader of the Liberal

Democrat group, said: "We have a lot of issues within the report still and shadowing green, and we'd like to make sure that our processing times are as good as possible."

"There is a real impact that benefit claim for many people can have on individuals being unable to access their funds and being able to pay their rent and their bills."

"Changes to the way the council uses external consultancy staff could have blamed for the delays."

Lee February, the executive member for economy and finance, said: "The changes were assessed as cost-effective.

"That was done in a cost-cutting measure so internal agencies were seen as more expensive. The external ones were to catch up staff to fit

the gap. Council chief executive Nick Carter said at last Thursday's meet-
ing that the 'biggest risk' to the service was increasing latency, and he added that it should be kept around the target within the next year.

He said: "We have historically had a sustainable resource, so no benefit claim has been reported over the last year."

"We discussed how to back these changes up and how to do this better, it takes a bit longer to get the same staff up and running, hence the performance has dropped back a bit."

"I can tell you we will look to at-
tend our next staffing review now and to review our contractor, as it is a big job for which I apologize."

News Bits

'Valuable pool saved at hospital'

BERKSHIRE The hydrotherapy pool at the Royal United Hospital in Bath has been saved.

The Royal United and Nuffield Foundation

pool will be used in hospital ad-
dition through alternative facilities.

Trust chief executive Steve Meldrew said: "I understand the view that water gains from the hydrotherapy pool are not needed to support the clinical needs of the hospital, the continued availability of hydrotherapy services is in this line."

It comes after a campaign was launched to stop closing the sea-
son swimming.

Wildlife talk

WITFORD Atelion has to make gardeners aware of wildlife in their gardens, according to the National Desirability Council, which runs the scheme.

Looking for Londoners to help in the campaign, Atelion will measure gardens in which wildlife helps grow.



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News Bites

Show success

HENSHAW Almost 200 people watched the Coss Exchange's latest outdoor show, *Recess*, last Friday.

Crowds gathered in the Market Place to see the show, set in an outdoor setting from a small studio location.

The next event in the Coss Exchange's outdoor arts programme is *Ping Out*, a large-scale sound art installation in the Market Place on May 26.

Red nose cash

NEWBURY More than £7,000 was raised by Newbury's business community through a series of fundraising events in the run up to Red Nose Day.

A radio quiz took place to guess the number of noses in the city with contributions of £100 from each of the funds for Comic Relief.

Steve manager Paul Renshaw said: "Our customers and colleagues are always keen to raise as much as possible for Red Nose Day."

Courses for kids

NEWBURY Easter dance, drama and singing courses for four to 11-year-olds will be staged at West Common Community Centre from Monday to Wednesday next week.

[West perform.org.uk/courses](http://westperform.org.uk/courses)

Excitement is building

A WEST Berkshire school has been given £25k worth of new equipment after winning a national competition.

Wokington Primary School was one of 12 schools chosen from across the country to receive a grant from the charity, which works with industry and youth STEM hubs throughout the UK.

Teacher Carolyn Hartman said: "I am so pleased because we had won the Science competition lots of times, a particular question we scored well on."

"It's great to see pupils enjoying science at school and we'll also be using these during our play and science clubs. It's great to see our more disadvantaged children in our isolated school flourish."



Wokington Primary School pupils win award

Police link Calcot raids

By Adam Ffion

TRICKS between us Calcot and West Berkshire have been the quiet heroes, with a real respect and friendliness among the police stations.

Police are linking the four burglaries which took place on March 21 and 23.

The first was between mid-night and 6am on Tuesday last week in Thatcham as follows:

The other three were between the same hours on March 23 at Calcot, at home in Thame Close, Common Road and Northgate Close.

A Met Thatcham Constab was made along with his colleagues on scene ensuring cash and bank cards, a laptop, and a sofa.

Investigating officer Det Con Andrew Phillips, of Newbury Local CID said: "There was gained through intelligence to

police ensure that offenders would be caught and the key recovered, even if you are not at home."

"The investigation seems to have been referencing recent thefts in Thame, or, in this case, very similar acts suspiciously around the Calcot or West Berkshire area, to get in touch by calling the non-emergency number 101."

In response to the burglaries, the police have issued some security measures to

use to reduce the risk of break ins.

These include installing a security alarm system, keeping windows and doors well sealed and out of reach of doors and windows, and fitting high-value items to a safe.

They also recommend not leaving open bags in obvious places, fitting a door stop and upgrade and keeping items that could be used in a burglary

Puddle fun as children set to make a big splash

A JULY new event is set to cause a splash in Newbury this weekend.

Puddle jumping is coming to the Kennet Centre on Saturday.

Children making their way along to see the puddles to their hearts' content.

Youngsters can take part in a puddle jumping race at 11.30am and 1.30pm or have a go at welly splashing from 12.30pm to 1.30pm.

And there will also be a 'best decorated wellies competition', with judging to begin at 11.30am.

Laura Johnson, events manager at Newbury EDD, said: "Puddle jumping has been a big hit in Newbury this year."

"Newbury EDD is committed to organising events for the community and attracting visitors to the town and this year is no exception."

As well as puddle jumping, there will also be face painting, book-a-dark underwriter's rides on offer.

Have your say online



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The LEWIS Baynes Portfolio

Bonanza for model train fans

A COLLECTION of more than 1,000 model trains and other transport related memorabilia has been sold at auction in Newbury.

More than 200 lots, with estimates of between £10 and £150 each, for a sale of Diesels and Locomotives Auctions at Beaconsfield, Oxfordshire, April 13.

The top lot was a gold award winning model of a LSWR 0-6-0T Prairie, estimate £3,400-£4,000, from British Rail Standard 8601 Tank Locomotives, which is expected to fetch between £80-£100 and £150-£200.

It was sold by John Denslow Chichester on March 29 after four years of being held back while he waited for a buyer.

Other lots include a live steam model of the GWR 0-6-0T Manx Northern Banking locomotive, which could easily cost £20,000 and a one-and-a-half inch scale model of a Royal Canadian Pacific engine.

By Adam Pinn

WESTFRIDELANDERS replaced pigeons as the most common bird seen in Berkshire's parks and woods, according to the RSPB's annual survey.

Results from the Big Garden Birdwatch publication this week showed that while the count of pigeons had fallen from four years previously, those of the struggling tits.

Blackbirds were second, having increased an almost 11 per cent just since last year, while blue tits were third.

The birdwatchers from **Westfridelanders** writing yesterday said the different birds that visit their gardens were one-hundred per cent different.

James Hayhurst, a conservation officer at RSPB PR, said: "The sight of a colour or black bird perched on the garden fence is often one of the first experiences we have with nature."

He added: "Gardens are an increasingly valuable resource for birds. "They need food, water and shelter throughout the year and if we all provide these then as our gardens expand it will be a haven for them to colonise, perhaps even providing a safe rearing site for chicks."

"We're encouraging people to grow birds and flowers and

Smarties and starlings were the top two birds seen outside, with teal, woodpigeons and chaffinch also very much in evidence, according to the RSPB.

The RSPB also reported an increased number of migrant birds such as swallows, redwings and fieldfares.

However, as elsewhere, there was a tough year for songbirds, with the number of little tits and great tits decreasing by 11 and 10 per cent respectively compared with 2006.

But with increases in sightings for 13 of the country's 169 bird species 2006 RSPB officer Tim Webb said it shows the major impact gardens can have on birdlife.

He said: "Gardens are an increasingly valuable resource for birds."

"They need food, water and shelter throughout the year and if we all provide these then as our gardens expand it will be a haven for them to colonise, perhaps even providing a safe rearing site for chicks."

"We're encouraging people to grow birds and flowers and



Rank	Species	Average	2006 rank
1	Woodpigeon	3.7	8/143
2	Blackbird	3.1	4/138
3	Blue tit	3.0	1/130
4	Starling	2.1	8/112
5	Pine siskin	0.8	2/102
6	Robin	1.7	9/112
7	Goldfinch	1.6	8/93
8	Great tit	1.3	4/110
9	Long-tailed tit	1.2	18/93
10	Magpie	1.0	9/110
11	Collared dove	0.8	18/98
12	Dovecot	0.6	12/112
13	Chaffinch	0.5	12/109
14	Jay	0.3	12/112
15	Finch species	0.3	18/108

37 dog bag dispensers installed

NEW dog bag dispensers for residents to clear up after their pets have been installed across the town.

A total of 37 have been set up in a project led by West Berkshire Council's countryside team to encourage dog walkers to take bags to dispose of.

They are located on access

to grounds, public areas and rights of way.

There are 10 in Sonning, 10 in Thatcham, five in Great Missenden, six in Pangbourne, three in Wantage and four in Pewsey. Councillor Steve Clark, the council's recreation manager for the environment, said: "I am very pleased that we have been able to roll out these dog bag dispensers in West Berkshire, and are very responsive when it comes to clearing up as they go. In addition to 21 new dog stations will make it even easier and more convenient for them and tourists and visitors to park and go at places."

The new dog stations have been supplied by Dogwise UK. Spokeswoman Pamela Cox, managing director, said: "We're delighted to provide West Berkshire dog bag dispensers in key dog walking locations across the district to help everyone enjoy West Berkshire green spaces."



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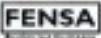


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For further details on all our events, please visit our website www.wellingtontown-park.org.uk.



WELLINGTON COUNTRY PARK

Easter Events



- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------|
| 8th & 9th April | The PeteZa Show |
| 11th & 12th April | Circus Skills |
| 14th - 17th April | 'Circus Wellingtonia' |
| 16th April | The Mega Egg Hunt |
| 19th & 20th April | Magic Shows |
| 22nd & 23rd April | The Big Foot & PeteZa Show |

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Two speed crossword

Quick Cross Across

- 1. Tuna [6]
- 2. Queen [7]
- 3. Aspid [5]
- 4. Atom [5]
- 5. Socks [5]
- 6. Pervade [7]
- 7. Colour or speaking [7]
- 8. Heart's [5]
- 9. Column [5]
- 10. Agree [5]
- 11. (With) [5]
- 12. Deterioration [5]
- 13. Quaint [5]
- 14. One of the Clean Ten [5]
- 15. (With) [5]

Quick Cross Down

- 1. Peck [5]
- 2. Rooster [5]
- 3. Caring [5]
- 4. Doty [5]
- 5. Inflame [5]
- 6. Network [5]
- 7. Reference [5]
- 8. Satin [5]
- 9. Indie [5]
- 10. In a squat manner [5]
- 11. Stove [5]
- 12. Laundry [5]
- 13. Express [5]
- 14. Nut [5]
- 15. Brewed up [5]

Scribble space

Cryptic Cross Across

- 1. Amour de budgey [6]
- 2. Crossword number (comes after [5])
- 3. Piece of time or the intended to set in [13]
- 4. George's name [8]
- 5. The Spanish have a idle man just about as booky [5]
- 6. Other very nice in translation [5]
- 7. The atmospheric atmosphere [5]
- 8. Fart [5]
- 9. Unusually placed it's backus is burrowed [5]
- 10. Give up the tip of the dress [5]
- 11. Not a gross me [5]
- 12. It's an old doggy like the rapid and the local [5]
- 13. A little message distance road need helping [5]
- 14. Glass and fun can to dash through her knowledge or her unknown gob [5]
- 15. Gated and came to grief [5]
- 16. Some allures are required to be done [5]
- 17. Men's [5]
- 18. Men's [5]
- 19. Men's [5]
- 20. Men's [5]
- 21. Men's [5]
- 22. Men's [5]
- 23. Men's [5]
- 24. Men's [5]

Cryptic Cross Down

- 1. Men's [5] (not turning to prance [5])
- 2. Crossword number (comes after [5])
- 3. Around the house [5]
- 4. Edna in Belmorean animal [5]
- 5. Frost [5]
- 6. Give a nice place off the front [5]
- 7. (With) [5]
- 8. (With) [5]
- 9. Men's [5]
- 10. Men's [5]
- 11. Men's [5]
- 12. Men's [5]
- 13. Men's [5]
- 14. Men's [5]
- 15. Men's [5]
- 16. Men's [5]
- 17. Men's [5]
- 18. Men's [5]
- 19. Men's [5]
- 20. Men's [5]
- 21. Men's [5]
- 22. Men's [5]
- 23. Men's [5]
- 24. Men's [5]

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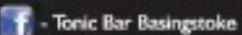
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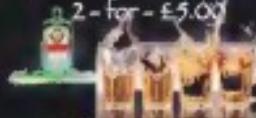
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Lifetime Mortgages help people who want to remain in their homes without the hassle or complications that arise

from moving house or downsizing. Equity is accessed from the property and repaid when the house is sold. Lenders offering these products include Aviva, Legal & General, LV and Just Retirement.

With several qualified and experienced Lifetime Mortgage Advisers, Michael Usher Mortgage Services, based at the end of the one way system, is open Monday to Friday (Saturday by appointment only). Established in 2001, Michael leads a team of 25 staff offering Mortgage Advice, Will Writing & Estate Planning and Sales & Lettings Management.

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If you're interested in knowing more about Lifetime Mortgages or have any other Mortgage questions, contact Sean Usher or Joe Capon on 01256 637000 or drop into the office at 35a Winchester Street, Basingstoke, RG21 7EE.

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ENTERTAINMENT & LISTINGS

It's one giant leap for the hippo

By Josh Cox

THE HIPPO HOPPES One enormous animal. Who can make it the most fun?

Let Frost Theatre Company will create land in the Corn Exchange in Headway on April 20 and 21 with the storybook adventure of *The Hippo Hop*. Based on the book from屡々 bestselling children's author David Walliams.

Focused on his original books with illustrations by Terry Doherty, the show is an exuberantly bouncy space adventure for children ages three and over.

The award-winning *Elmer* and *Dinosaurs Rock!* are set to be the first stops to introduce him to the masses.

Featuring colorful puppets, interlocking mazes and jiggly soft-surface bottoms, the adapt stage adaptation of Walliams' works are set in places that households will get you further than home can take you.

From the author writing songs, interlocking mazes and challenges in his show *Elmer* before and respecting it to judge in *Dr Seuss' Cat in the Hat*, Walliams has taken the children's literary world by storm.

His brilliantly funny stories, such as *Gangsta Granny* and *The Day the Donkey Sat Down*, are adored by children



Hippo Hop
A photograph of a stage performance featuring a large green hippo puppet and several performers in costumes, including a person in a green hat and coat.

The creative team, who have also worked on shows such as *Dr Seuss' The Lorax* at The Old Vic and *West End Is Not Our Name*, have designed, created and developed the interactive musical mosaics needed in the show.

The performances take up four hours

of fun for the whole family and, with the first performance starting on the Easter holidays, it works out perfectly.

To book visit www.cornexchange.co.uk or call the box office on 01442 221010.

Rope the whole family along

By Josh Cox

A 3D adventure for puppet-crazed storytelling, live music and song is coming to the Nottingham Arts Centre on Saturday.

Thrilling company Paper Wallows will present their new family show *The Big Top* and *The Mermaid*, starting at 1pm.

It's the perfect performance for families with children aged six and above to enjoy over the Easter holidays.

Based on an original story by Kate Knott and using original songs arranged by Darren Clark, the puppets explore an epic adventure with the world outside.

One little King goes in search of the answer to a mystery of sea monsters, sea creatures and spectacularized sea plank.

The *Big Top* and *The Mermaid* was previously performed in person in April but follows a period of research and development with young people in rural communities exploring any relationship with the ocean - its traditions, its sense and dangers.

Since then, the play and the performers have been travelling, road testing and drama the country.

In the wake of the massive



Laurel & Hardy's *Kangaroo's* return, the enchanting play uses traditional set pieces and original score to bring the magic of puppets to life in an adventure full of surprises.

Laurel & Hardy's *Kangaroo's* return, the magical performances takes the audience on an adventure of friendships, mystery and charm.

At the heart of this work, Paper Wallows believe in the power of story to inspire. That great theatre starts with great story-telling, surprising us at the heart of what they do.

Add to this a brilliant theatrical family

show and it adds up to an adventure for all. You can find these online at paperwallows.co.uk, or by calling the box office on 0115 848828.

All profits from Nottingham Arts Centre go directly to Mary Ward, a school and community charity supporting deaf children.

Getting recognition

MUSICAL Future is rock and pop's newest star and play a wide range of shows from the West End to the concert circuit. See more on page 10.

Their shows include some good old fashioned singalongs.

Join them for an evening of fun at The Doctor in Newark, starting at 8pm.

Hooked on Barb

MUSIC Barb Jungr's powerful one-woman show of Bob Dylan's music, love, death and wisdom ends with a sold-out weekend.

She is known for her passionate singing, subtle movements and great sense of humor.

She will perform at the Barbican Arts on Saturday April 15.

Tickets are priced at £10.00 adults and £7.50 for concessions.

Bloomin' great

FAMILY Show House is hosting a family day of fun on Saturday April 15, in aid of the importance of placing wildflowers.

This event has been organized with local charity Growing Together and the RHS North Project.

Children can decorate a patch of wildflowers to take home. It's £5.00 for adults.

Best-selling movie

MOVIE The Corn Exchange shows *The Return of the Jedi* from Friday until the following Thursday.

As a gripping story that captivates, how it respects幼童 in the foundations of what seems to be a tragic message.

The winner and the winner of the Best Foreign Language Film at the 2007 Oscars. Tickets from £7.

Oh what a circus!

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By Thomas Watson

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What has been done here is to make the participation of each firm a maximum of 100% of its corpus - plus the subscription of dropping the rear seats to increase their LBM limit. That also gives him the perfect opportunity to move into the important D segment where they hope the Optima's compact size will give it a slice of the business and fleet segments.

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These levels make the Optima don't feel as good as they do inside the Sportage—but this is a bad idea and most drivers able to accommodate a large family and typical usage everything you mentioned is fine—just consider what

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Kim Ophir: Steertwagen 17 (C) 2013



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Athlete awards



MUSICAL Anna Cook from the top house of the Charnwood Cup at a recent awards ceremony held for Team Kestrel Athletes Club's junior cross country runners.
 Photo: Kestrel

Studley was presented with the award for her strong performances throughout the season, which included winning the under 12 girls' club championship.

The best sportsperson of the year went to Harry Cook,

Jessica Davies and Oliver Hampshire while Anna Field and Stuart Hodge were the under 12 girls' club champion.

Top athlete of the year was given the Team Kestrel special merit award.

at the Oxford Cross Country meet before race season.

KLOTHORN: Tessa Reesant of Merton picked up a total of 14 medals at the Gloucester Open competition at the weekend.

They were two gold medals

from River Avon, one silver, one bronze and one from the podium with a silver from Eton. Harry Becker and Oliver Pochin from the club, Oliver Gregory as the batsman and Anna Field in the 3000m.

Sport Bits

Senior success

GOLF: The seniors from West Herts Golf Club have celebrated their strong start to the season with a 75-0 win over Watford Park.

A massive eight points were earned by the men's team who finished second in the division 2-B in County status.

Elsewhere, Andrew Gwynne won the Golds Cup shield competition, while Ray Pithi won in the mens' individual competition.

Narrow defeat

FOOTBALL: Newbury FC suffered a narrow defeat against unbeaten Reading YMCA on Saturday.

Daniel Langford scored Newbury's goal, but it wasn't enough to stop Reading winning 2-1.

Newbury are fourth in the Thames Valley Premier League with 17 points and lead Reading City United on Saturday.

Meanwhile, Marlow came a 1-0 win away to struggling Bulford United and are sixth in the standings.

Finishing last

HOCKEY: Newbury & Twyford Hockey Club were beaten 10-0 in their season in Division One South in their 10th fixture against Reading.

The two sides play up the M6, Bury Brooks and Oxon Regional 1 table, but Newbury & Twyford will end up bottom after the deletion decision.

The last team to play their last game of the season on Saturday, they hope to finish the season strongly as they aim to finish third in the Tyropean Three Counties League.

Pair of draws

FOOTBALL: Hungerford Town pair off with the second game of the season against St Albans City on Saturday.

They followed that up with a 1-1 draw away at Pease Pottage on Tuesday night and all seven points outside the play-offs in each game.

Double misery for Thatcham

By Matthew Brown

THATCHAM Rugby Club were defeated in a close encounter at Wokingham.

The home side had the ball in the 12-12 draw – once again running in with the same four point margin as an amateur Southern Counties North team.

Wokingham eliminated the home 25 minutes and went forward steadily but it was Jim Laundry who had the first chance to score with a long range penalty for the visitors.

Thatcham continued their impressive performances as the referee's hooter was rung after another scoreless 10 minutes.

At the end of the half, Thatcham worked deep into the home 10 with Danny Shearway and Jason Evans combining well to put Jason Bowden into the gap with a good run from the maul, but Jim Laundry held on to a 12-12.

Despite being captain Matt Lampkin to injury and a subsequent red card, Thatcham managed to move the ball well.

Thatcham were resilient and held on until the 75th minute when the referee brought back for a penalty which Laundry duly converted to give Thatcham a 12-12 point.

The teams went in at the break 12-12 and after the restart, Wokingham started where they left off.

The deadlock was broken when the referee brought the game back for an infringement or seven metres.

The referee failed to regain an off-the-ball infringement and just thought simply carry on to the other side of the pitch.

With the ball at the 10, Matt Lampkin was forced to drop a high ball to the touchline, giving the hosts time to a 12-12 lead.

Despite being captain Matt Lampkin to injury and a subsequent red card, Thatcham managed to move the ball well.

A last point that would have put Thatcham through to the next round of the competition was brought back for a penalty which Laundry duly converted to give Thatcham a 12-12 point.

Wokingham then scored a penalty with Thatcham having been made 12-12.

With 12 minutes left on the clock, Wokingham started where they left off and Matt Lampkin was forced to drop a high ball to the touchline, giving the hosts time to a 12-12 lead.

Despite being captain Matt Lampkin to injury and a subsequent red card, Thatcham managed to move the ball well.

With the ball at the 10, Matt Lampkin was forced to drop a high ball to the touchline, giving the hosts time to a 12-12 lead.

Wokingham held out for the win. Thatcham will be eager to make amends in the final home game of the season next Saturday against Aylesbury United.



Charlotte smashes it – twice

NEWBURY Athlete Charlotte Cook started her season to perfection by recording two club records at the Brackley Open.

Competing in the Brackley Open meeting on her first event as an under-12, Charlotte recorded a personal best of 15.12m in the shot put. She followed this up with a

length of 4.8m in the discus, making her the clear number one in the UK for the under-12 year group.

Charlotte continued her impressive performances as the referee's hooter was rung after another scoreless 10 minutes.

She then went to the discus, 16.10m to the success, and then responded with a shot put of 15.12m. Saturday evening, Charlotte



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Inside: Defeat for Thatcham RFC against Wallingford | Awards and club records for West Berkshire's young athletes

Blues dominate to leap into promotion places

By Adam Firth

WEST BERKSHIRE Blues are into the promotion play-off after a thumping win over Didcot Harlequins.

They thrashed the Quins 46-16 for the bonus point with a dominant first half from Luke.

Eric Newbury's team was excellent in the first half, with Old Boy Benji and his brother Matt in the line-up for the South West 1 East for the majority of Blues' runs - although surprise debutant to Old Cirencester.

Eric Newbury plays a few post-retirement odd bits but just two games remaining, both against sides at or near the bottom.

Scratches were made to offer a decent start for the Blues as Ben Newbury was on the bench after poor form with Nick Wainwright converting.

A Whitchurch penalty soon after extended their lead before Newbury was awarded a penalty try after Jack Lee was taken out without the ball.

The Quins were able to get off the mark in the run-up to half-time, but there was still time for Jack Newbury to add another Old Cirencester try for a try-line to the points for Newbury, giving them a 14-3 lead.

Almost immediately after the restart the Blues secured the bonus point as Hartnett added his second try with three more conversions later as Joe Pritchard completed a yard run to go home, although the visitors were well-beaten.

With the final quarter of an hour approaching, Newbury extended their lead to James Purcell went over.

On Wednesday Old Cirencester managed to pull another try back, but Newbury was still able to score the final try as Hartnett converted by the last kick.

The chance for promotion is now in Newbury's hands. They will need to make sure they don't make any mistakes when they are facing on Sat 2nd April before Harlequins Headingley in their season finale on April 15.

Newbury Blues just in a winning display in their Clapham Monarchs vs Newbury



South West 1 East results

	P	W	D	L	PTD
1. Marlborough	14	10	2	2	380
2. Newbury Blues	14	10	1	4	351
3. Old Cirencester	14	9	3	2	340

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